

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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The Special Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President, George Hinton, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilmen: Jon Faust, David Valley, Kerry Gassler, Tony Curcio, Joe Weaver, and Dave Hess. Also in attendance were Mayor James Shoemaker, Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek, and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone.

Council President, George Hinton, explained that the purpose of this special meeting is to discuss the Wind Gap Ambulance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. John Kloss, Regional Director - Eastern PA EMS Council. John Kloss explained that the PA EMS Council is a contracted agency with the Pennsylvania Department of Health that oversees certain components of EMS agencies within a six (6) county area of Eastern Pennsylvania. They are responsible for the licensuring of vehicles, the inspection of vehicles, the continuing education, disciplinary, investigative, coordinating the State's financial end of EMS (not the operational end – that is the local corps responsibility). Mr. Kloss is in attendance to assist in what steps need to be taken in order to move Council's decision with regard to ambulance service within the Borough. He encourages that performance measures are taken into consideration when making this decision. Also, the organization that is to service Wind Gap should be staple so that the Borough does not have to go down this decision path again two or three or five years from now. Does the organization have strong medical directors, do they have an individual leading them from a clinical perspective, driving protocol and procedures as an organization. He encouraged Council to look at financial stability and strength of all the providers prior to making a decision. The reality of keeping one BLS (Basic Life Support) truck operational and on the road for one year, the cost is approximately \$235,000 to \$275,000. Focus on performance, their ability to gauge, predict and measure where they are today, but also where they will be tomorrow, how they go about relocating vehicles during peak times versus a stagnant system, how they accommodate the 911 system, but also how they accommodate the transportation of the sick and injured between facilities. When it comes to numbers and mutual aid response and the ability to cover all the calls, in a busy urban setting the acceptable standard is between 3% and 5% of the call volume is anticipated to go to mutual aid. Eastern PA EMS Council would assist with a recommendation either tonight or over the next few months. They have plenty of individuals in their organization that can offer assistance at no charge because they are available to help.

2. Barry Albertson, Executive Director, Suburban EMS. Suburban EMS submitted a written proposal to the Board of the Ambulance Corps and that proposal has not changed any since it was presented to the Wind Gap Ambulance Board. They prepared their proposal based on the information provided to them by Wind Gap Ambulance. He discussed mutual aid calls and assistance among all providers. They currently cover 22 municipalities and respond to 20,000 EMS calls through the 911 Center. Suburban has 30 trucks in their fleet and will be taking delivery of an additional five (5) trucks.

3. Mike Snyder, Nazareth Ambulance. Mike provided Borough Council with the Nazareth Ambulance proposal at the last Council meeting. He emphasized that the Nazareth Corps has

stability for years to come. They have been serving the Borough of Wind Gap as the ALS (Advanced Life Support) provider for the last fifteen (15) years. There have been no issues and no complaints that he is aware of during the fifteen years of service from them. Their trucks will be adjusted accordingly to cover the Borough.

Jon Faust asked both organizations about staffing numbers in Wind Gap:

Nazareth – 1 ALS truck, 24 hours a day will be kept on the 911 side (not used for transports), the BLS truck put here during the daytime will be used for calls in Wind Gap to back-up and transports as available and as needed. If the ALS truck goes out on a call, then a truck will be moved up.

Suburban -

OLD BUSINESS

1. Wind Gap Ambulance

On motion by Dave Hess to appoint Nazareth EMS as Emergency provider for Wind Gap Borough. No member of Council seconded the motion, so it died for lack of a second.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Suburban EMS as Wind Gap Borough's BLS/ALS provider. No member of Council seconded the motion, so it died for lack of a second.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to table the issue prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for other ambulance providers and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. In favor: T. Curcio, J. Faust, K. Gassler, G. Hinton, D. Valley, J. Weaver. Opposed: D. Hess. Motion carried with a vote of 6-1.

On motion by Jon Faust to audit the Wind Gap Ambulance books for three (3) years (2012, 2013, 2014) and seconded by David Valley.

Motion Amended by Joe Weaver to include . Roll call vote taken. In favor: J. Faust, K. Gassler Hinton, D. Valley, J. Weaver, T. Curcio. Opposed: D. Hess. Motion carried with a vote of 6-1.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 8:58 p.m. to discuss real estate. Council reconvened at 9:12 p.m. Council President, George Hinton, informed those present that no action will be taken at this time.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of August 18, 2015. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of August 18, 2015 adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator